

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 227039 TOSEC 270061

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 227039 TOSEC 270061

FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM BROWN (S/PRS)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF DAILY BRIEFING MONDAY, SEPT. 13

NO. 3

FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF DEPUTY SPOKESMAN'S RESPONSES TO
QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AT DAILY BRIEFING SEPTEMBER 13:

(1) VIET-NAM -- WE REJECT VIETNAMESE CHARGE THAT U.S. HAS
BEEN "ARROGANT" AND HIGH-HANDED IN DELAYING RESPONSE TO
VIETNAMESE AUGUST 27 NOTE. U.S. HAS HAD CONTINUING SERIES
OF EXCHANGES WITH VIETNAMESE SINCE LAST MARCH. LATEST NOTE
RECEIVED AUGUST 28 AND IS RECEIVING CAREFUL CONSIDERATION.
VIETNAMESE, IN FACT, HAVE TAKEN AS LONG AS SIX WEEKS TO
RESPOND TO TWO OF OUR PREVIOUS NOTES; FOR EXAMPLE, JULY 19
TO AUGUST 28.

AMBASSADOR SCRANTON HAS COMMENTED JUST A FEW MOMENTS AGO
THAT U.S. INTENDS TO VETO VIETNAMESE APPLICATION FOR AD-
MISSION TO THE U.N. "GESTURE" OF PROVIDING 12 MIA NAMES IS
INADEQUATE. CONSIDERING THAT REVELATION CONSTITUTES ONLY
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PAGE 02 STATE 227039 TOSEC 270061

12 OUT OF ALMOST 800, WE CANNOT ACCEPT THIS AS SERIOUS

REPLY TO OUR DEMAND THAT VIETNAMESE GIVE "AS FULL AND COMPLETE AN ACCOUNTING AS POSSIBLE OF OUR MIA'S."

WITH REGARD TO AID, AS SECRETARY HAS POINTED OUT ON NUMBER OF OCCASIONS, U.S. IS UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO SUPPLY RECONSTRUCTION AID TO VIET-NAM IN LIGHT OF SYSTEMATIC AND FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS OF PARIS AGREEMENTS BY VIETNAMESE. THEY ARE IN NO POSITION TO DEMAND THAT WE ADHERE TO CERTAIN ASPECTS OF PARIS AGREEMENTS WHILE THEY HAVE FLAGRANTLY VIOLATED MANY OTHERS. OUR PRIMARY INTEREST REMAINS A COMPLETE ACCOUNTING FOR MIA'S AND UNTIL THAT IS DONE THERE IS NO POINT IN TALKING ABOUT PROGRESS WITH REGARD TO FUTURE BILATERAL CONTACTS BETWEEN U.S. AND VIET-NAM. WE EXPECT THIS ACCOUNTING NOT ONLY UNDER PARIS AGREEMENTS BUT ALSO ACCORDING TO BASIC HUMANITARIAN UNDERSTANDINGS, THE GENEVA CONVENTION, AND ACCEPTED PRACTICE. WHILE DEPY SPOKESMAN DECLINED TO DESCRIBE PARIS AGREEMENTS AS "DEAD, ALIVE OR ON THE CRITICAL LIST," HE UNDERLINED THAT VIETNAMESE HAVE SO VIOLATED AGREEMENTS THAT IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO TALK ABOUT ANY SORT OF RECIPROCAL GESTURES UNDER THESE AGREEMENTS.

(2) YUGOSLAV PROTEST ON CROAT HIJACKING -- YES, THERE WAS PROTEST FROM YUGOSLAVS. WHILE IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN OURSELVES AND YUGOSLAVS ON THIS MATTER, WE WOULD OBSERVE ONLY THAT WE FIND NO GROUNDS FOR COMPLAINT BY YUGOSLAVS WITH RESPECT TO MANNER IN WHICH USG ACTED IN THIS MATTER. HOSTAGES HAVE BEEN RELEASED, HIJACKERS ARE IN CUSTODY OF U.S. AUTHORITIES AND THEY WILL BE DEALT WITH UNDER RELEVANT U.S. LAW.

(3) FRENCH ROLE -- WE ARE EXTREMELY RELIEVED THAT HIJACKING DRAMA ENDED IN PARIS AND OF COURSE ARE GRATEFUL FOR HELP AND COOPERATIVE ACTIONS ON PART OF FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

ROBINSON

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